

CATTARAUGUS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Established 1923

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Health Department H1N1 Updates

The Cattaraugus County Health Department (CCHD) released its new H1N1 clinic schedule today. These clinics are open to any residents of Cattaraugus County and the times and locations are as follows:

- ✓ Wednesday, December 16th, Cattaraugus Fireman's Club on South Street, Cattaraugus, from 1 to 7 pm
- ✓ Tuesday, December 29th, Portville Central School, from 1 to 7 pm
- ✓ Wednesday, January 6th, Machias Fire Department Bingo Hall, from 1 to 7 pm

Additional Clinics in Salamanca and other points in the county are being scheduled as vaccine continues to be available and as sites are secured.

Why Get Vaccinated Now:

- Flu activity remains widespread in New York State, although activity has decreased over the past two weeks.
- Nearly all flu to date has been of the H1N1 strain.
- The H1N1 virus is very unpredictable, but it is frequently characterized by a period of increases in activity, followed by a period of decreased activity, and then increased activity again.
- Typically, we see the most flu activity during the winter months, but the flu season runs until May.
- Getting vaccinated in the next two months will provide protection against a possible third wave of the H1N1 virus this winter and spring.
- Getting more people vaccinated now could actually PREVENT another strong wave of flu, because increased rates of vaccination provide greater levels of immunity for communities as a whole.

More information on the flu is available at www.cattco.org, the State Health Department's website at www.nyhealth.gov and on the CDC website at www.flu.gov. Residents with questions may also call the local Help Lines at 716-701-3980 or 716-938-2980, Toll-free 2-1-1 or the State Health Department Toll-free Hotline at 1-800-808-1987.

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